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Bokorny's Textbook

BOKORNY has published a textbook of botany³ that meets the official requirements for instruction in the *Oberrealschulen* and *Realschulen* of Bavaria. It appears in two parts and is thoroughly well printed and illustrated. The authorship of the book is a guarantee of its accuracy, and therefore the chief interest lies in discovering the kind of botanical material that is thought appropriate for the German student who is approximately the equivalent of our students from the third year of high school through the second year of college. In short, the purpose of the book would be about the same as that of most of our texts for high schools, which are announced for high schools, but are really suitable for colleges.

It is evident at first glance that the demand is for a general survey of the whole domain of botany. The first section (145 pp.) deals with "flowering plants," and is introduced by studies of common garden forms, the first contact being with rape and the various cabbage types. In this way a knowledge of the gross morphology of angiosperms is developed; to which is appended what would seem to be a few useless pages of cryptogams. The second section (15 pp.) deals with "inner morphology," which is explained to be "plant anatomy" or "histology." Yeast, pine needles, starch grains, chloroplasts, growing points, vascular elements, root-hairs, etc., form the usual *débris* under such a caption. The third section (197 pp.) is a presentation of the classification of the plant kingdom, that amazing impossibility that rides every German text like the old man of the sea. It is like inserting a dictionary of the language into the midst of a course on literature. We presume that the German boy must submit to it, but we wonder at his docility. This closes the first volume.

The second volume includes four sections. The first (20 pp.) is really a presentation of plant symmetry, but it is not long enough to hurt; the second (104 pp.) deals with physiology and anatomy, relating structure to function; the third (90 pp.) is entitled "biology," which we include under the broader term ecology, and it looks quite modern and interesting; the fourth (17 pp.) is a brief outline of plant geography, being chiefly an enumeration of zones, provinces, etc.

The general structure of the book would not be so very different from that of the corresponding American texts, were the 200 pages of classification omitted.—J. M. C.

MINOR NOTICES

Bibliographia Linnaeana.—This work⁴ represents the most complete bibliography of the numerous Linnaean publications ever compiled. The different works of LINNAEUS and the publications of other authors directly relating thereto are arranged chronologically, beginning with the *Dissertatio botanica de planta*

³ BOKORNY, TH., Lehrbuch der Botanik für Oberrealschulen und Realschulen. Teil I, pp. vi+366, M4. Teil II, pp. 233, M3. Leipzig: Wilhelm Engelmann. 1908.

⁴ HULTH, J. M., Bibliographia Linnaeana: Matériaux pour servir à une bibliographie Linnéenne. Partie 1, Livraison 1, 8vo. pp. 170. pls. 1-3, 5-9, 11. Uppsala: Librairie de l'Université, C. J. Lundström. Berlin: R. Friedländer & Sohn. 1907.

*Sceptrum Carolinum dicta, quam * * * praeside Laurentio Robergio * * * ventilandam sistit auctor Johannes Olavus Rudbeck Ol. Fil. * * * 1731.* After mentioning the original edition of the respective works, subsequent editions, reissues, and translations are accurately recorded; and in each instance the usual information is given as to place and time of publication, as well as the form, number of pages of text and index, and other details. In those works consisting of more than one volume the subjects treated in each volume and the number of pages devoted to each subject are indicated briefly in tabulated form. Reference is also made to contemporary notices and reviews.

The volume is amply provided with cross-references, and the subject-matter on the pages is well differentiated by judicious spacing and a careful selection of type, thus making the work attractive in appearance and of easy reference. Several facsimile reproductions of title-pages and frontispieces of the rarer Linnaean works are appended, which add to the interest of the volume. It is a book which will serve as a most useful guide to the Linnaean literature.—J. M. GREENMAN.

The flora of Styria.—VON HAYEK⁵ has begun a systematic treatment of the ferns and flowering plants of Styria. The first number of this work contains a key to the main groups and sub-groups, which are clearly defined, and a second key leading directly to the families. The enumeration of species follows a natural sequence, beginning with *Ophioglossum vulgatum* L. and continuing through the three parts to *Chenopodium album* L. A concise description of each species is given in German, and associated with it one finds a fairly complete synonymy and bibliography. Careful attention has been given to habitat and distribution. Text figures are introduced to illustrate certain groups, but the illustrations lack clearness and detail. The nomenclature is in accordance with the Vienna Rules adopted at the last International Botanical Congress.

On the whole the work thus far happily combines a semipopular presentation and a degree of scientific accuracy which will make it useful to the local botanist and to the general systematist.—J. M. GREENMAN.

Flowering plants and ferns.—Under this title WILLIS published the first edition of his manual and dictionary in 1897. A second edition appeared in 1904, and now a third⁶ has come to hand. The purpose of the book is "to supply, within a reasonable compass, a summary of useful and scientific information about the plants met with in a botanical garden or museum, or in the field." The result is a very convenient book of reference. The first part presents an

⁵ VON HAYEK, AUGUST, Flora von Steiermark. Eine systematische Bearbeitung der im Herzogtum Steiermark wildwachsenden oder im Grossen gebauten Farn- und Blütenpflanzen nebst einer pflanzengeographischen Schilderung des Landes. Vol. I. Parts 1-3. 8vo. pp. 240. Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger. 1908.

⁶ WILLIS, J. C., A manual and dictionary of the flowering plants and ferns. Third edition. pp. xii+712. Cambridge: The University Press. 1908. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.75.